

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DACCA 06302 150346Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /045 W
----- 003390 /14

R 141241Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2953
INFO AMCONGEN CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 6302

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, BG
SUBJECT: THE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND RESISTANCE COMMITTEE

1. A NEW ORGANIZATION, THE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND RESISTANCE COMMITTEE (NSRC)), HAS APPEARED ON THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE IN DACCA. THE ORGANIZATION, A COALITION OF NINE POLITICAL PARTIES, HELD A DELEGATES' CONFERENCE IN DACCA, DECEMBER 12, AND ADOPTED A SIX-POINT PROGRAM URGING THE PEOPLE TO RALLY AROUND THE COMMITTEE IN ORDER TO BUILD A STRONG NATIONAL RESISTANCE AGAINST "THE FORCES INIMICAL TO THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF BANGLADESH" (READ INDIA).

2. THE NSRC IS A COLLECTION OF LEFTIST PARTIES WITH A COUPLE OF MODERATES THROWN IN. THE SPOKESMAN OF THE COMMITTEE IS ATAUR RAHMAN KHAN, ONE OF THE ORIGINAL AWAMI LEAGUE FOUNDER , FORMER CHIEF MINISTER OF EAST PAKISTAN AND NOW THE LEADER OF THE JATIYO LEAGUE, A SPLINTER FROM THE PRESENT AWAMI LEAGUE. HE IS JOINED IN THE NSRC BY ANOTHER MODERATE AND FORMER AWAMI LEAGUER, MRS. AMENA BEGUM, WHO HAS FORMED HER OWN POLITICAL GROUP, THE JATIYO JANATA PARTY. THE OTHER LEADERS REPRESENTED IN THE NSRC ARE FROM THE SMALL LEFTIST PARTIES (WITH ONE EXCEPTION): SHANTI SEN (SAMYABADI DAL); SIRAJUL HOSSAIN KHAN (JATIYO GANOMUKTI UNION); CAPTAIN ABDUL HALIM CHOWDHURY AND KAZI ZAFAR AHMED (UNITED PEOPLE'S PARTY); GAZI SHAHI-DULLAH (NAP/B); A.S.M. SULAIMAN (KRISAK SRAMIK PARTY);

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DACCA 06302 150346Z

MOULANA ABDUL MATIN (LABOR PARTY); AND M.A. MATIN

(CONVENTION MUSLIM LEAGUE, THE EXCEPTION).

3. THE LATTER POLITICIAN IS AN ANOMOLY IN AN OTHERWISE LEFT-LEANING GROUP. MATIN HAS VIRTUALLY NO FOLLOWING AND NO PARTY ORGANIZATION, BUT HIS NAME IN THE LIST MAY INDICATE AN ATTEMPT TO GIVE THE NSRC A BROADER BASE. WE ARE TOLD THAT GENERAL OSMANI, ANOTHER MODERATE BREAK-AWAY FROM THE AWAMI LEAGUE, HAD BEEN APPROACHED TO JOIN THE COMMITTEE BUT REFUSED REPORTEDLY BECAUSE THE GROUP WAS "TOO PRO-PEKING."

4. THE SIX-POINT PROGRAM ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE CALLED FOR THE FORMATION OF LOCAL NATIONAL RESISTANCE COMMITTEES "TO RESIST THE SABOTAGE ACTIVITIES AND BORDER INCURSIONS OF THE ANTI-STATE FOREIGN AGENTS." THE CONFERENCE ALSO CALLED FOR COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING "OF THE PATRIOTIC PEOPLE TO CREATE "PEOPLE'S SQUADS" TO ASSIST THE REGULAR ARMED FORCES TO MEET ANY EMERGENCY. A CALL WAS ALSO GIVEN TO "BUILD A MOVEMENT AGAINST COMMUNALISM." A CENTRAL COMMITTEE, DIVIDED INTO A EXECUTIVE AND A GENERAL COUNCIL, WAS ORGANIZED.

5. COMMENT: THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF THE COMMITTEE AND A FRONT-PAGE PICTURE OF ATATURK RAHMAN KHAN'S ADDRESSING THE DELEGATES CONFERENCE HAS MADE SOME OBSERVERS SPECULATE THAT THE GROUP MUST ENJOY OFFICIAL PATRONAGE, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE SEEM TO RUN COUNTER TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES REGULATION (PPR). THE COMMITTEE HAS CALLED A PUBLIC MEETING AND ISSUED A SIX-POINT PROGRAM, FORBIDDEN UNDER THE PPR UNTIL A PARTY RECEIVES OFFICIAL SANCTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT. FURTHERMORE, THE COMMITTEE HAS CALLED FOR THE FORMATION OF PARAMILITARY FORCES, SPECIFICALLY FORBIDDEN BY THE PPR. THE EXISTENCE AND COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE SEEMS RATHER UNUSUAL. MOST OF THE MEMBERS HAVE TRIED TO WORK TOGETHER IN THE PAST WITH LITTLE SUCCESS (ALMOST ALL OF THE PARTIES WERE ONCE PART OF THE BROADER BASED AWAMI LEAGUE IN THE FIFTIES). THE COMMITTEE, WHICH BECAUSE IT IS NOT CALLED A "PARTY" MAY CONVENIENTLY BE ABLE TO DODGE THE PPR, SEEMS TO APPEAL TO THE ONE CONCERN THAT HAS ALMOST UNIVERSAL SUPPORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DACCA 06302 150346Z

IN BANGLADESH: THE FEAR OF INDIA.
MASTERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DACCA06302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760461-0402
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761246/aaaabnej.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND RESISTANCE COMMITTEE
TAGS: PINT, BG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006